

Media Contact: Carrie Hoover, (614) 834-9727 choover@canalwinchesterohio.gov

November 25, 2008 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Christmas in the Village December 5 and 6

Santa Parade begins at 5:15 p.m. and activities commence at 6 p.m. both nights

CANAL WINCHESTER – Canal Winchester's annual storybook Christmas celebration will be held in the village's historic downtown on Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6. Activities will take place on the sidewalks and streets as well as inside several business establishments around the village's municipal office building at 36 S. High Street.

This year's event will include horse drawn carriage rides, visits with Santa, children's games and crafts, ice sculptors, an electric train display, Christmas carolers, a gingerbread house contest, a business expo, and much more. A Santa parade will begin at 5:15 p.m. each night and activities will commence at 6 p.m. All activities at the event are free and open to everyone. Donations to the food pantry are appreciated and can be dropped off at Huntington Bank during visits with Santa.

Activities:

- Visit with Santa (inside Huntington Bank) No photographer ~ Please bring your own camera
- Children's Games (inside Chase Bank)
- Business Expo (inside Community Center)
- Ice Sculptors (Stradley Place)
- Carriage Rides (in front of Huntington Bank)
- Hayrides (in front of municipal building)
- Electric Trains (inside Community Center)
- Carolers (roving)
- Gingerbread House Contest (Fern's Attic)
- Children's Crafts (inside Town Hall)
- Tree Lighting (grassy knoll behind Stradley Place)
- Complimentary Popcorn Station (Stradley Place)
- Live llama display (in front of iBeam)

Friday Santa Parade route (to include the Canal Winchester Labor Day Court): Parade begins at the Gender Road firehouse and will head south on Gender Road, turn left on Dietz Drive, left on Washington Street, right on Columbus Street and left on High Street.

Saturday Santa Parade route (to include the Canal Winchester Labor Day Court): Parade will start at the village municipal building and head south on High Street, right on Columbus Street, left on Washington Street, left on Ashbrook Road, left on Williamson Lane, right on Embers Lane, right on Walnut Drive, left on Williamson Lane, right on Hilliard Drive, right on Saylor Street, left on Williamson

Lane, left on Ashbrook Road, right on Washington Street, right on Columbus Street and left on High Street.

Anyone who would like more information about Christmas in the Village or details on how to enter the second annual gingerbread house contest should contact Carrie Hoover at 614-834-9727 or choover@canalwinchesterohio.gov. If you would like more information about the Business Expo, please contact the Main Street Canal Winchester organization at johngarrett@mainstreetcanalwinchester.org or (614) 270-5053.

Christmas in the Village is a partnership between the Village of Canal Winchester and the Main Street Canal Winchester organization. This free community event would not be possible without the support of many local businesses and volunteers.

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